SUPERLAB is a fun and educational comic for KS2 children about the wonders of biomedical science. This comic can be enjoyed by children alone, in the classroom or with the help of adults.
We’re all biomedical scientists who do medical tests in hospital superlabs.

I’m HAEMATOMAN the HAEMATOLOGIST and I analyse blood samples.

I’m CHEMIGIRL the CLINICAL CHEMIST and I understand changes in blood and wee.

I’m BUG RIDER the MICROBIOLOGIST and I grow bacteria in wee and poo.

I’m BLOOD BOY the TRANSFUSIONIST and I make sure people get the right kind of blood when they need a transfusion.

I’m HISTOQUEEN the HISTOLOGIST and I look at tissue samples under a microscope.
We are the patient’s samples that doctors send to the hospital. Follow us!

I’m **SPECIMAN** the CYTOLOGIST and I look for patterns in cells.

I’m **SUPERGENE** the GENETICIST and I know all about genes.

I’m **IMMUNA** the IMMUNOLOGIST and I understand your immune system.

I’m **CAPTAIN VIRUS** the VIROLOGIST and I know all about viruses and viral infections.

**We help doctors find out why people are unwell**
TARIQ'S STORY

Are you ok Tariq?

urrrrrgh

You need to see a doctor!

hi Tariq, don't worry..

this won't hurt a bit

You ok Tariq?

You need to see a doctor!

hmmm...I think we need a blood test. I'll call the nurse

Tariq's blood sample

the sample heads to the hospital...

...it's sent to the blood lab...

hmmm...This is a job for a Superlab!

here's the sample..
Haematoman performs a series of tests

The results are sent back to Dr Li's

Can I speak to Mr Singh?

Yes

Ok Tariq, we've just received the results and you've been prescribed some medicine

Tariq and his dad go to the chemist

careful Tariq!

woaah!

A few weeks later - Tariq is fully recovered!
Find us! Lots of science is happening in the hospital, can you spot our superheroes as biomedical scientists?
Welcome to my Superlab - the haematology lab!

We have just received a few blood samples, let’s process them!

First let’s stick a barcode on the samples to identify them and keep track.

We don’t want any mix-ups.

I like my new stripy T-shirt!
Let’s find out the blood types

Use the blood type key to complete the blood test cards

Blood type key

O+
O-
A+
A-
B+
B-
AB+
AB-

blood test card
Blood type: O+
Name: Sam Paul

blood test card
Blood type: O-
Name: Mike Robe

blood test card
Blood type: B+
Name: Sir Clotalot

blood test card
Blood type: AB+

going for more tests
Can you identify the different blood cells in this sample. Using the key below, colour in the different cells in the correct colour.

**Key**
- red blood cells
- white blood cells
- platelets
- germs
Make your own ‘Test Your Sample’ game

Sample cards

- **Wee Sample**
  - Microbiology lab

- **Blood Sample**
  - Blood lab

- **Gene Sample**
  - Gene lab

- **Tissue Sample**
  - Cell lab

Mystery cards

- **Virus outbreak!**
  - All labs close and all players back to the start

- **Immune system boost!**
  - Jump to any lab of your choice

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You will need: coloured paper, felt tip pens, scissors.

Sample cards: using the examples above as a guide make 3 of each kind so that you end up with 12 cards in total. The colour of the sample needs to match the correct lab.

Mystery cards: on white paper draw question marks on one side and write an instruction on the other. This page has some examples of the type of instruction. Make 12 mystery cards and put them face down next to the game.

A full set can be downloaded from: www.superlabscience.com
How to play: all players choose a colour and place your counters on the start. Deal the sample cards so each player has 3 cards. Take it in turns to roll the dice and move along the board in the direction of the arrows. Your mission is to drop off the samples on the drop off squares in the correct labs. For instance:

Only one sample can be deposited at a time. You do not need to roll the exact number to land on the drop off squares. If you land on a question mark you must select a mystery card from the pile and follow the instructions. The first person to drop off all their samples at the correct labs, wins!
Dyes are used to contrast the structures of the cells so they can be recognised - colour the slide

Welcome to my lab! The histology lab.
We have just received a tissue sample!

Let's fix the sample and prepare it for observation!

- tissue
- fix
- dehydrate
- embed in wax
- slice

a thin layer is put under the microscope for analysis
Let's have a closer look  
Sort out the slides below into matching pairs
Bug Rider to the rescue! Welcome to the microbiology lab. We have just received a wee sample!

Let's check this wee sample and see if we have any bacteria growing ....

Bug Rider sterilises the metal loop with a Bunsen burner and inoculates the Petri dish with the sample.

Germ Sudoku
Complete the grid to have one of each germ in each column or row.

While we wait for the bacteria to grow let’s do a germ sudoku.
Funny fever!

Why did the bacteria cross the microscope?
To get to the other slide

Hey, why are the viruses all gone?
The food is great here

Because they “FLU” AWAY
Where’s the loo?

Tell me the one about the germ
I can’t. I don’t want to spread it around

It’s at the back-teria!
LOL
Create your own Superhero scientist!

My Superhero power is...

My Superhero works in the...

My Superhero’s special tool is....
(bunsen burner, petri dish, syringe, test tube)

My Superhero’s name is.....

My Superhero outfit looks like....
Draw your Superhero in their superlab
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Harvey’s Gang gives young, long-term patients across the country the chance to become biomedical scientists for the day. Harvey’s Gang members are given special lab coats so they can go into hospital laboratories and learn about their healthcare.

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